

232343Z Aug

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
STAFF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

JAGE

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PRIORITY

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

FROM: CINCARIB *Aircom Reassigned J-5 vice J-3*
TO: JCS, JACE AJCC FT RITCHIE MD
INFO: COFS USAF, COMCAIRC ALBROOK AFB CZ
NR: CC68465EA

252343Z AUG 61

1. This command urgently needs air reconnaissance capability that will provide for fast reaction to Castro-Communist attempts to introduce subversive elements into or make attacks on countries within CARIBCOM area.
2. Present lack of tactical aircraft requires CINCARIB to go through the time-consuming process of seeking outside assistance to conduct an operation whose effectiveness is in direct ratio to speed of execution. The 28 June 1961 request from Ecuador for US assistance in locating two unidentified submarines is illustrative. Thirty-four hours elapsed between CINCARIB's request for assistance and the arrival of the first aircraft over Ecuador.
3. This reconnaissance capability will assume even greater importance if the Caribbean security arrangement concept being developed by the Dept of State is accepted.
4. To meet his command responsibilities, CINCARIB must have means within his own resources to react quickly to outside threats. Local study indicates that B-57B aircraft would be suitable.
5. Recommend: A. Immediate assignment to Caribbean Air Command of three tactical aircraft capable of conducting armed air reconnaissance over land and littoral areas. B. Minimum essential augmentation of CAIRC personnel strength.
6. SCP 4

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Classified by _____
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO
YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED ON DECEMBER 31 1972

ACTION: JCS
INFO: CSA, CNO, CMC, DCSOP, ACST, DCSLOG, DCSPER
DA IN 143873 (26 Aug 61)

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